



12 October 2021

NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Guardian,

Assalamu Alaykum WRWB,

I am very excited to inform parents of the planned staggered return to school and I look forward to welcoming our students and staff to face to face learning from next week.

Return to face-to-face teaching

The NSW Premier and the Minister for Education have outlined the Government's plan for a staggered return to school. The planned dates for staggered return to face-to-face learning are as follows:

- Monday, 18 October 2021 – **Year 12, Kindergarten and Year 1 students** return to school
- Monday, 25 October 2021 – All other remaining grades return to school

The week commencing 18 October Year 12 students will return to School. They will be able to engage in revision lessons and have the opportunity to work face to face with their teachers. Their StuVac period will then commence on Monday 25 October through the commencement of their HSC exams on 9 November. During the StuVac period teachers will continue to be available via Teams and email to address any student questions.

Remote Learning will continue until Friday, 22 October in its current form for classes that are not scheduled to return to face-to-face teaching.

It is essential that the School continues to implement the measures put in place to protect the health of our staff, students and parents. The following measures apply and parents are required to strictly abide by these requests.

- **Wearing of Mask** - All adults and Secondary students of Years 7 to 12 will be required to wear a mask at all times (indoors and outdoors), with the exception of when they are eating. The wearing of

masks will reduce the risk of transmission. If your child has a certified medical condition that prevents mask wearing, please contact your child's Head of Campus or the relevant Year Advisor to advise them of the condition.

- **Social distancing** must be strictly adhered for the safety of staff, students and parents.
- **Greenacre Primary** parents are required to drop and pick up their child at the top of the driveway.
- **Hoxton Park and Beaumont Hills** parents are required to drop and pick up their child at the School gate.
- Parents **must drop and pick up** only. Staff will collect your Primary child and take them to the assembly area.
- Parents **are not allowed** to walk their child to the Office or assembly areas.
- Parents **must not** to gather and socialise.
- Parents are asked **not** to park and get out of their car.
- It is essential that all students are collected on time.
- All meetings between staff and parents will take place via phone or virtually.
- **QR Codes and Check in:** All persons coming on site to any campus is required to check in via the Service NSW QR Code, which is displayed around the school campus. Please ensure that you check out on departure.

Student Wellbeing to Return to School

We understand that return to School for some students will be similar to commencing a new year of Schooling. They will take some time to readjust to been back to face to face learning. Time will be allocated in the beginning of each lesson for staff to reconnect with their students, to check-in on how they are travelling emotionally and educationally. Your child's class

teacher, Year Advisors, Welfare Coordinators, Heads of Wellbeing, and School Counsellors are available to support your child in all aspects of their educational and wellbeing needs. Our School Counsellor's details are:

Hoxton Park: counsellingHP@mfis.nsw.edu.au

Greenacre Secondary: counsellingGS@mfis.nsw.edu.au

Greenacre Primary: counsellingGP@mfis.nsw.edu.au

Beaumont Hills: counsellingBH@mfis.nsw.edu.au

Health and Hygiene Measures

The School is following the NSW Health Guidelines of hygiene practice to protect against infection and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Parents and carers of children and young people with complex medical needs are encouraged to seek medical advice from their health practitioner. This will support informed risk assessment and decision-making regarding the suitability of on-site education for your child.

I ask that everyone maintains good hygiene practices:

- Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds at regular intervals throughout the day
- Hand washing is essential before and after eating and after going to the toilet.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with the inside of the elbow or a tissue
- Place used tissues straight into the bin
- Avoid touching the eyes, nose and mouth
- Do not share food or drink

To further reduce transmission risk each student is to bring their **own water bottle** instead of using the bubblers on the schools grounds.

The School is conscious of the issue surrounding "cohorting" of students from different year groups and is considering options available to minimise such student interaction.

I wish to assure parents that practical arrangements to do with room ventilation, sanitisation points and classroom set ups are being attended to. An audit of our classrooms and air conditioners is being undertaken across the three campuses.

Students feeling unwell

If your child is sick, they **must not attend School**. You must keep them at home and away from others. This means that if your child has a fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, they should stay home, even if the symptoms are mild. Please make sure they are well

before returning to school. It is important that parents remind their child that, if they feel unwell, they tell you before coming to School. If your child is unwell at School, they must tell their teacher immediately. Unwell children will be isolated and parents will be required to collect them to take them home.

Students Not Attending

You may decide to not send your child to School during this transitional phase. For these students, remote learning will be available, however, this cannot be in the same format as it is now. In Secondary, teachers will stream part of their conventional face-to-face lessons on to Teams. In Primary, students will be provided with work outlines through the email system as is currently done but there will be some opportunities for limited interaction on Teams.

Prayer Mats

Although there are strict guidelines regarding "cohorting" which all schools must adhere to, Malek Fahd Islamic School is able to facilitate the Duhr prayer. For this to take place safely, students are advised to bring their own prayer mats to school. Please label the mats with your child's name and class. Primary students may wish to keep their mats at school in their class tray when not in use.

School Bus Service

The bus companies will resume its normal operation from Monday, 18th October. They have reassured its approach to the well-being of passengers. It confirms that it continues to follow the advice of the World Health Organisation, Federal and State Health Departments to ensure the continued safety and wellbeing of staff and the communities that we serve.

Measures include:

- Masks are **mandatory** for Secondary students on public transport although it's recommended for all students to wear it while traveling to and from School.
- Continued intense cleaning regime – the bus fleet, interchanges and depots are deep cleaned and sanitised to minimise the spread of germs.
- Practicing social-distancing on board – exclusion zones are in place on board to help create more space between drivers and passengers. A lower number of passengers creates adequate social spacing.

Masks and other personal protection equipment are available for drivers. Drivers are also equipped with hand sanitiser and disinfectant spray to help sanitise their driver's cabin area before and after shifts. Any employees displaying flu-like symptoms will be sent home immediately.

Return of Devices,

As we approach the end of remote learning and see a return to face-to-face schooling, the use of devices to access TEAMS is no longer needed. We kindly remind our families that once your child is back at school, all borrowed devices are returned to the school office. Please note, as with anything borrowed, damaged devices will incur a cost to repair or replace them.

School Canteen will resume from Monday, 25 October 2021.

2022 School Term Dates

Please be advised the following are the dates of schooling for 2022. These dates have been published on the school website.

Term 1 - Monday 31st January to Friday 8th April

Term 2 - Wednesday 27th April to Friday 1st July

Term 3 - Tuesday 19th July to Friday 23rd September

Term 4 - Tuesday 11th October to Friday 9th December

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is currently closed on campus; however, you are welcome to purchase uniforms online via <https://www.midford.com.au/school-shops-online> For online purchase:

- Select Malek Fahd Islamic School Uniform Shop from the online School Shops tab
- Register a new account - the unique school pass phrase: Malek1989 will be required.
- Add your personal information, create a username and password

Should you require further information or details, please feel free to contact 0498 518 916.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards



Mr Bruce Rixon
Principal